About nine or ten days are required to lay a strand of 280–300 wires, if no delays happen. After the last wire of the strand is in place, it is cut and spliced to the end of the first wire so that the whole strand is formed of one continuous wire. The latter operation is a delicate one, because the ends have to be cut so that the deflection and length come exactly right. A few trials with a temporary splice are therefore necessary to be made.

The next operation consists in tying the two parts of the strand together so as to form a round, solid little cable, which at the East River bridge has a diameter of $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches. For this purpose a so called "carriage," as illustrated farther below in Figs. 43 and 44, is placed on the strand on top of the towers, in which a few men slowly descend towards the anchorages and center of river, tying during the passage the strand every 16–24 inches with four turns of No. 14 annealed galvanized wire. Before being tied, the wires are sqeezed